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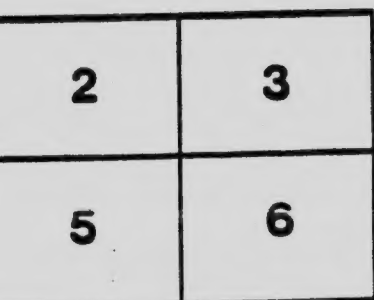
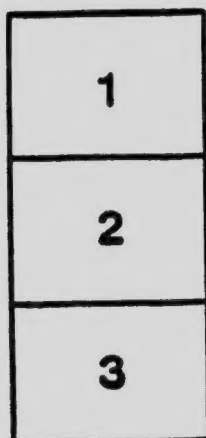
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# FAMOUS PEOPLE

BY FANNIE M. LOTHROP



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# FAMOUS PEOPLE

BY FANNIE M. LOTHROP



Photo by Gessford, New York

## FANNIE M. LOTHROP

### The Author of Our "Famous People" Series

We take pleasure in announcing to our readers that with this issue we begin a series of remarkable, illustrated, biographic sketches of famous people—men and women who are making the history of the times. This series is by Fannie M. Lothrop, the well-known author and the ablest writer in this line in America to-day. For several years she has been a writer and critic on the leading publications of New York and Philadelphia.

For this work Mrs. Lothrop has a double fitness; from the literary side her knowledge of the great people of the day and her original way of putting things, and from the artistic side, her close acquaintance with the world's famous people fits her pre-eminently to select the best possible views of her subjects. To her belongs the distinctive honor of possessing the largest collection of portraits in the world, now numbering over 400,000—a treasury of portraiture unapproached by that of any museum or library in existence. The time, patience, concentration of purpose, industry and systematic attention to detail expended in arranging such a collection is remarkable.

"Mrs. Lothrop," says a famous critic, "has unusual ability in presenting the vital elements of a man's character so cleverly, so deftly, and subordinating dates and details, that from her pen we get in a few lines living biographies that show the real man, his qualities and his life, more effectively than in whole pages by other writers. Some artists can give more in a thumb-nail sketch than others can present in a panoramic painting."

Mrs. Lothrop passed her girlhood years in Wisconsin, her native State. Her father, I. F. Mack, a New England gentleman of that class we fondly term "the old school," was a lawyer, educator and thinker of rare power and singular clearness of mind. He founded the public schools of Rochester, N. Y., and was identified with all local movements during his residence there, removing thence to Wisconsin, where he became prominent and wealthy by reason of his legal talent. Mrs. Lothrop's mother is a cousin of John Pierpont, the American poet, who was the grandfather of J. Pierpont Morgan.

For two years Mrs. Lothrop was a student of Oberlin College, standing highest in her class, and a graduate of the Normal College of Chicago, where her musical genius early attracted attention. She is brilliant in conversation and well informed on all topics of the day, though not a "new woman" in any sense of the word. In the library of her home in New York, filled with the best works of the best thinkers, she does all her literary work.

LOTHROP, F.

# FAMOUS PEOPLE

BY FANNIE M. LOTHROP

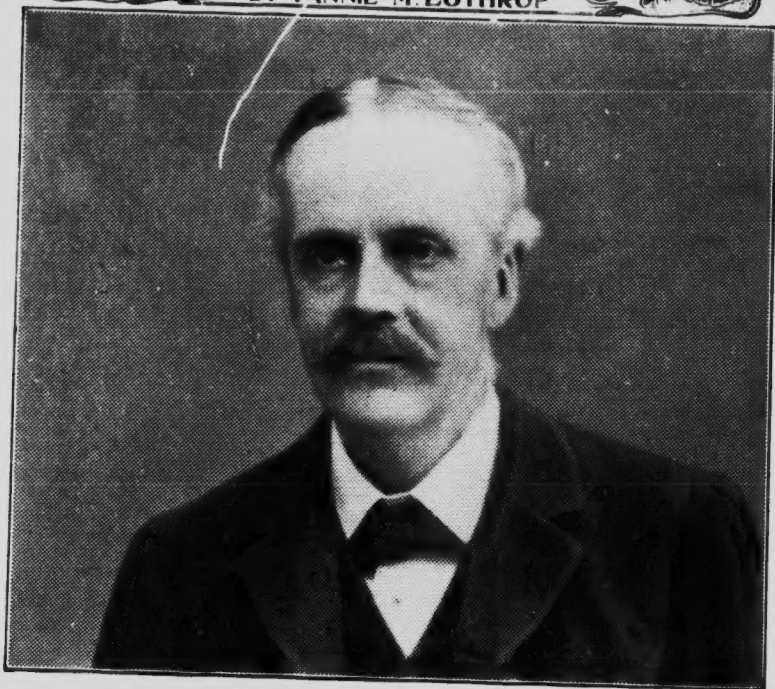


Photo. by London Stereoscopic Co.

## ARTHUR J. BALFOUR The Evolution of a Prime Minister

The Prime Minister of Great Britain, Arthur James Balfour, is a strange paradox. A power in politics, he cares nothing for the game; with little or no ambition, he has risen to a position second only to that of the King; of a dreamy, philosophic temperament, he has proved himself a man of instant action in every emergency.

He was born in 1848 in Scotland, the son of a wealthy Scotchman, and Lady Cecil, sister of the late Lord Salisbury. At Eton and Cambridge he won no medals for special brilliancy, and no microscopic examination revealed a germ of future greatness. He was a member of "The Souls," a society of enthusiasts vainly seeking the "ultimate" among the list of life's unattainables. When twenty-six he entered Parliament, and was bored and cynical, taking neither himself nor his work seriously; a spectator of life rather than a struggler. As the weak member of "the Fourth Party," he was the good-natured butt of the House and was usually summed up by his fellows as "clever but hopelessly lazy."

In 1886, to the amazement and amusement of England, Salisbury, his uncle, named him the successor of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chief Secretary for Ireland. This post that had brought the snow of age to the heads of strong men and had even killed some of them in the fierce days of the "Land League," was given to this young, gentle, easy-going individual. The Irish members smiled knowingly and rubbed their hands in the glee of anticipation—but it was all premature. Daniel was surely thrown into the lion's den, but the lions had not reckoned on the marvellous transformation.

The indolent, careless manner of Balfour suddenly fell from him as if it were a magic mantle. He stood before them a man of keen judgment, iron will, vigorous and virile force and a master in executive power. He braved alike their taunts, their threats, their insolence and their abuse until they became tired. They were like fairy bullets that hit him but did not hurt him. His firmness, liberality and good sense at last won his enemies.

From one high position to another he rose without any seeming effort, till his present honors fell at his feet in 1902. Balfour is a man of deep religious spirit, sweet and gentle in nature, serious and serene in temperament, simple and unaffected, seemingly unconscious of his strength, a philosopher turned statesman, and so sensitized to the great realities of life as to be unmindful of many things that absorb the whole life of smaller men.







Photo. by Lafarretto, London

## QUEEN ALEXANDRA

### The Sweetness and Charity of England's Queen

Queen Alexandra, whom Dean Stanley termed "the angel in the palace," has for over forty years endeared herself to the hearts of the British people since 1863, when a girl of nineteen in her quaint, little, old-fashioned poplin frock and shawl, she landed at Gravesend as the bride of the Prince of Wales.

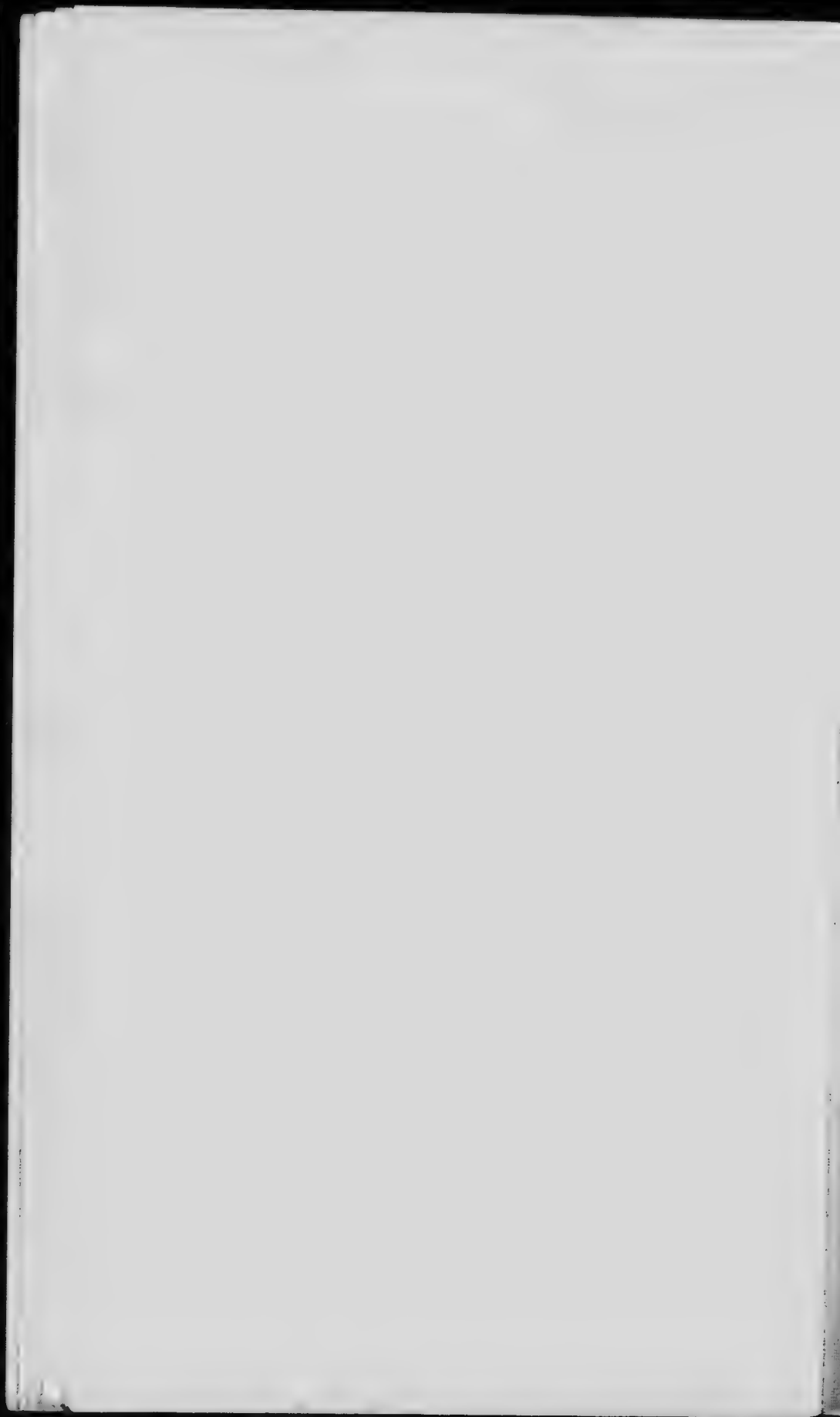
Her early life was passed in extreme plainness and simplicity, because of the smallness of the family income. When she was born, her father, then Prince Christian, had no hope of ever being King of Denmark, for his relation to the reigning king was so distant. He had nothing but his military pay and his wife's modest dowry. The life in their home, the Yellow Palace at Copenhagen, was pretentious only in name. The daughters, Alexandra and Dagmar, who became Empress of Russia, wore garments of cheap material cut in the plainest style.

When Alexandra was seventeen, the Prince of Wales, while speaking to one of his friends, jestingly asked to see the portrait of his sweetheart. Inadvertently the wrong picture was handed to the Prince, and instead of the face of his friend's fiancée, he saw the likeness of "the most beautiful woman in Europe." The future king of England promptly fell in love with the portrait which led to his marriage two years later.

The simplicity of her early years has ever clung to the Queen; though in the court she has not been of it, and for society she has cared little. Her home circle has been her throne, where she has reigned with sweetness and love. Her kindness, gentleness, tact and generosity have been always at the call of need, and since she went to England has been instrumental in raising or causing to be raised over \$250,000,000 for charity.

In one of King Christian's weekly letters to her, he wrote that an elderly lady-in-waiting to the late Queen of Denmark was dying, and that her one wish was to speak again to her dear "Princess Alex." At that time it was impossible for Alexandra to leave England, but a long tender message of love and hope spoken by her into a phonograph, was sent by special courier to Copenhagen. Its arrival a short time before the aged lady's death made her last hours serenely happy.

At Sandringham she led the life of a country lady, finding her pleasure in her children, the house, the grounds, her pets, and in ministering acts of mercy. Serene, gracious and beautiful, her life has been quiet, though with a thread of sorrow running through days of seemingly golden happiness.



# FAMOUS PEOPLE

BY FANNIE M. LOTHROP

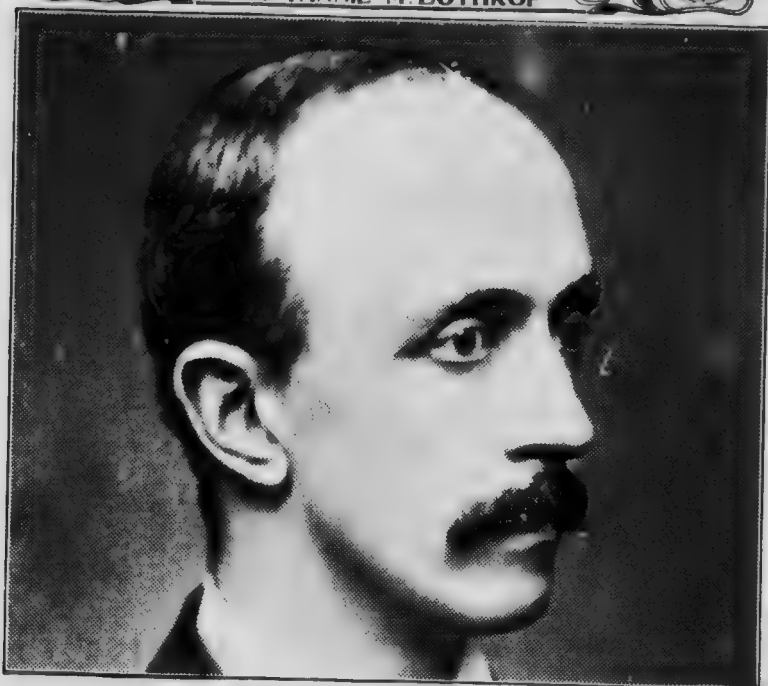


Photo. by Russell & Sons, London

## EARL GREY

### Canada's New Governor-General

Earl Grey, the brother of Lady Minto, does not come to Canada as a stranger, for he has been a frequent visitor at Ottawa during Lord Minto's régime. He was born in 1851 of an old Northumberland family living at Howick since the sixteenth century. His grandfather, the second Earl Grey, was the Whig Prime Minister who carried through the Reform Bill in 1831.

Alfred Henry George Grey, the new Governor-General, does not need to fall back upon a family tree for a record, as he has made his own name secure. He was educated at Harrow, Trinity College and Cambridge, taking high degrees in history and law, and at an early age entered politics, being for six years a member of Parliament. In 1894, while he was making an extensive tour of South Africa, word came to him of the death of his uncle, to whose title and estates he succeeded.

Earl Grey was a close friend of Cecil Rhodes, and was the one man who knew how to manage him; and on more than one occasion when the Colossus of South Africa threatened to cut loose from the mother country and make Rhodesia an independent republic, the gentle firmness and influence of Earl Grey made the danger fade into thin air. He is one of the executors of Rhodes' will, and has an influential voice in the Rhodes scholarships.

After the Jameson raid in 1896, he succeeded to the administration of Rhodesia, and here his strength of mind and purpose, his knowledge of men and methods, his tact, diplomacy and personal magnetism enabled him to ride bravely over many obstacles. He has the courage to take the initiative whenever it seems right to branch out into new lines of effort, and is a strong lover of humanity. On his large estates he has successfully carried out his ideas of coöperative partnership; he is the organizer of the Public House Trust Company, which takes over and manages the saloons of England in the public interest. At a labor meeting in Scotland a few years ago he stated his belief that the gigantic trusts of the United States could be checked only by a coöperative plan limiting the interest to five per cent. and prohibiting the sale of shares in the open market.

Earl Grey has clear-cut features, dark eyes, a slight patch of hair, making an oasis in the desert of his baldness, a military bearing and a quick, energetic, decisive manner. His family consists of his wife, his son, Viscount Howick, and his three daughters, Lady Victoria Grenfell, Lady Sybil Grey and Lady Evelyn Alice Grey.



# FAMOUS PEOPLE

BY FANNIE M LOTHROP



Photo. by Marshall, Boston

## HELEN KELLER

### The World's Most Remarkable College Graduate

The story of Helen Keller's life is the biography of two wonderful women—the blind, deaf and dumb girl, who for over twenty years has fought against awful odds; and the kind, ingenious and patient teacher who has led her change into the sunlight of knowledge and of kinship with humanity.

In 1886, when Miss Annie Sullivan was called to Tuscomb, Ala., to assume the care of Helen, the child had been living for nearly five years in the total darkness that followed her treble affliction resulting from convulsions. The task of education seemed well-nigh hopeless, for the one sense through which the child's mind was to be awakened to consciousness was her sense of touch. But in June, 1904, eighteen years later, Miss Keller graduated from Radcliffe with distinction, and received her degree of B. A.

This fairy tale of education, this romance of the conquest of obstacles, is a superb triumph of concentration. At her entrance examination in June, 1900, as if Nature had not sufficiently handicapped her efforts, she had to submit to two additional trials. The questions were given her in the American Braille system of writing for the blind, with which Miss Keller was only slightly familiar, having learned the English Braille—the two systems being as different as two distinct systems of shorthand. This delay in puzzling out the translation of the questions was further aggravated by the fact that her little Swiss watch with raised figures had unfortunately been left at home, so she had no means of gauging the time, yet her typewriter clicked out the answers and she "passed" with flying colors in every study.

During her college course, in many studies Miss Sullivan repeated the lesson while Helen's fragile fingers feathered their way over her mentor's face, translated the muscular motions of speech into ideas. She studied English, Latin, French, Greek, German, political economy, logic, higher mathematics, chemistry and all the other myriad phases of college wisdom, through her wonderful fingers.

She uses the typewriter in five languages, has learned to speak with clear articulation, can swim, row, play cards, chess and basketball; dance, and perform a hundred other seemingly impossible things. Her memory is marvellous, her temperament sunshiny and happy; her mind is wonderfully broad, subtle and thorough, and her book, "The Story of My Life," besides being great as a biography, is the most important work of the century on psychology as a revelation of the human mind, its methods and possibilities.



# FAMOUS PEOPLE

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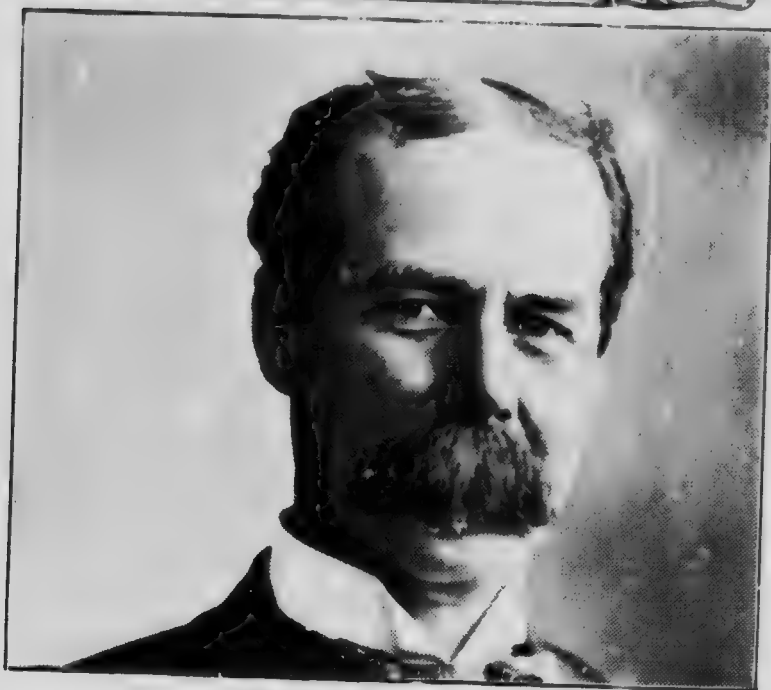


Photo by Lafayette, London

## SIR THOMAS LIPTON The Merchant Prince of England

The first time that Sir Thomas Lipton came to America was in 1865 as a stowaway in an old-fashioned little tramp steamer, and when the vessel neared port he was busily engaged in shoveling coal into the furnaces. The latest time was in 1903, when a whole nation held him in honor as a valiant and true sportsman, making his third brave but vain attempt to take a silver cup back to England. On this occasion he lived like a prince on his steamer "Erin," surrounded by his fleet of thirty-three boats—steamers, houseboats, barges, tugs, cruisers, steam launches, gigs, jolly boats and dingies—maintained at his expense and manned by over two hundred men.

Sir Thomas was born in Ireland, but spent his early years in Scotland; his education was a hurried, unconventional, picked-up variety, and at fifteen, with rosy dreams, he ran away from home, smuggled himself into a steamer and came to New York. His eight dollars did not last long, and after working in the rice fields of South Carolina, driving a street car in New Orleans, canvassing for a crayon portrait concern, stealing rides on freight cars, and making a day-by-day living as best he could, went back two years later to Glasgow, empty of purse but rich in experience.

The prodigal was received with open arms, and with £100 of his father's savings, he opened a little meat and provision store. He introduced American ideas, worked, as he says, "twenty-five hours a day" and advertised to the limit of his ingenuity. One day, seven of the leanest, gauntest, hungriest men in the kingdom paraded the town in Indian file, bearing on their backs the legend: "We are going to Lipton's." Next day, seven of the fattest men that could be found, walked the streets proclaiming in large letters: "We have been to Lipton's." Meanwhile, the proprietor slept under the counter.

This little shop in High street was the beginning of Lipton's 500 stores throughout England, his fruit farms in Kent, bakeries in Glasgow, the greatest tea plantations in the world in Ceylon, his curing factories in Liverpool, his candy manufactory in London, his fruit trees in Georgia, and his other vast industries, giving employment to ten thousand people, and having made for their owner a fortune of \$50,000,000 and an income of \$7.50 a minute. He gave £25,000 for the Jubilee Memorial dinner to the poor of London, and his check seemed little to him when his eyes filled with tears at the sight of 310,000 poor people eating as his guests. Not till later did the world learn that it was his gift; for the only thing he never advertises is his charity.





# FAMOUS PEOPLE

BY FANNIE M. LOTHROP



Photo. by Vireo, Paris

## MADAME CURIE The Famous Discoverers of Radium

All the known radium in the world could be put into a tablespoon, yet this less than an ounce of the magic metal has set the scientists of two continents guessing at this new conundrum of nature. The answers are very wonderful, very stimulating, but very unsatisfactory, so far as the theories are concerned, that seek to explain this rebel element which seems to defy so outrageously Nature's strictest laws. To M. Pierre Curie, a modest chemist, and his wife, belongs the honor of discovering the miraculous metal.

They are poor, hard-working people, consecrated to science, caring little for wealth or fame or position. Reserved and conservative, they speak with extreme caution as to their discovery made in 1898; although the non-scientific world has just awakened to the revelation in the past two years.

In a little, old-fashioned house at the extreme end of Paris, near the outer boulevard, whose criminals have given the section an unsavory name, lives the devoted couple with their one child and M. Curie's father, who is also a famous chemist. Some years ago Mlle. Sklodowski, a poor Polish girl, went from Warsaw, her native town, to Paris to study. She had talent and pluck for the double fight against poverty and opposition. Her first triumph was when she entered a competitive examination for higher mathematics. Her success was so overwhelming that the other competitors were eclipsed and eliminated. Not having money enough to enter one of the regular schools, she entered a municipal working-class institute, where M. Curie directed the laboratory. Soon she was his assistant and a little later his wife.

Some of the experiments of Becquerel on the radio-activity of uranium specially appealed to her, and she determined to experiment on the refuse ore of pitchblende, from which uranium is taken. It was then considered worthless like the cull of our coalfields. She drew her husband into the search and it took four years to get enough traces of this metal, worth three thousand times its weight in pure gold, to show its properties. Her paper on radium won for her the degree of Doctor of Physical Science.

As a grain of musk will perfume a room for a century or more, constantly throwing off fine particles without decreasing its weight, so radium bombards the ether with light, heat, energy, and half a dozen other marvelous effects, without appreciable loss, and in a thousand million years it would have lost only one-millionth of its bulk. It is the Andrew Carnegie of the metals, constantly giving but never growing measurably poorer.



# FAMOUS PEOPLE

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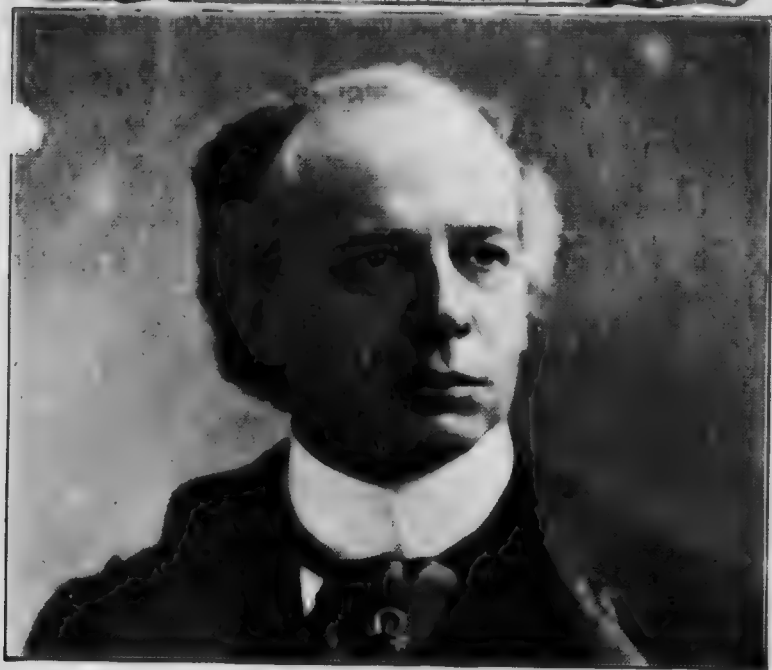


Photo by Montminy & Co., Quebec

## SIR WILFRID LAURIER The Premier of Canada

By sheer force of ability and the compelling power of character, Sir Wilfrid Laurier has reached the highest position in Canadian politics, and won a name that "must live in the annals of the British Empire." He has overridden obstacles that would have daunted a man of less virile genius and patriotism. Though French was his ancestry and language, and Catholicism his religion, he has become the leader of the destinies of a great English-speaking nation, the larger part of whose people are Protestants.

He was born in St. Lin, Quebec, in 1841, of a family of rebels who fought bravely under Papineau in the revolt of 1837. From the little country school where his teacher, a Scotchman, spurred his ambition and powerfully influenced his life, he passed to L'Assomption College, and in 1864, after completing his course in law, entered the Bar. When he made his debut in politics in 1871 as a member of the Quebec Assembly, his magic eloquence, the fearlessness, strength and finality of his words, and the mastery by which he brought order out of chaos, light out of darkness, thrilled his audience.

Three years later he resigned from the Legislature and was returned to the House of Commons on the overthrow of the Macdonald government. In 1876 he became minister of inland revenue, and two years later changes in politics deprived him of this position. He was the acknowledged leader of the Liberals who were the Opposition party until 1896, when after eighteen years of waiting, the reins of government again came into their hands and in the first flush of triumph they made him Premier.

His statesmanship has been broad, liberal, far-sighted; his patriotism and his love of liberty are manifest in every act and word. He loves and cherishes the British Empire, and glories in the part that Canada takes in it; but as a Power of great possibility, sharing with the United States the golden future of the American continent, he demands of England and the world the recognition of Canada, not as a babe in the swaddling clothes of a colony, but as a full grown nation of virility and assured triumph.

Tall, erect, with a handsome presence, clean-shaven face, clear, penetrating blue eyes, a firm mouth, broad shoulders, a brow masterful and dignified, a voice soft, sonorous and ever with the suggestion of unexpended reserve, a smile gentle and soothing as a benediction, with a courtesy and kindness that surround him as an aura—this is Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Canada's greatest orator and statesman.



# FAMOUS PEOPLE

BY FANNIE M. LOTHROP



Photo by Elliott & Fry, London

## MRS HUMPHRY WARD

### England's Great Woman Novelist

Literary prophecies, like boomerangs, should be handled with extreme caution—they are so prone to recoil. When Matthew Arnold affirmed that no Arnold could ever write a novel, he did not look sufficiently far into the future to see Mrs. Humphry Ward, the daughter of his brother Thomas, recognized as the greatest woman novelist of her generation.

She was born in Tasmania in 1851, and when six years old was brought by her parents to England. Her father, a college professor, changed his college as frequently as his religion; his intense conscientious yearning for absolute truth whirling him from one faith to another like a cork caught in the eddy of a stream, and making him the fit prototype of "Robert Elsmere."

At the age of fourteen, when the family migrated to Oxford, she breathed the University atmosphere that was joy to her heart. She acquired knowledge as naturally as a bird learns to sing, and she was known as a marvelous linguist, being as perfect in German, French, Spanish and Italian as if each were her native tongue. At twenty-one she was married to Thomas Humphry Ward, one of the university dons, whose work as author, editor, critic, has given him a place in English literature. She was ambitious to write, and her earliest efforts were so weighted with learning and research that they were as heavy as dumb-bells and fit only for scholars to read when they wanted to get away from pleasure. She wrote many articles for the "Dictionary of Christian Biography," which paid little in coin but more in credit.

Mrs. Ward was thirty-one before she undertook real fiction with "Miss Bretherton," followed four years later by "Robert Elsmere," which captured the reading public of two continents. Before this, it is true, she had written a child's story, a pale-complexioned, anæmic piece of work, fitly named "Millie and Ollie." Her translation of "Amiel's Journal" from French into English was an exquisite literary gem, expressing so perfectly the subtle windings of the thoughts and emotions of the simple Swiss professor, that it seems as if he himself must have re-thought his whole diary in English, without the touch of a translator. "David Grieve," which paid its author over \$100,000, and others which paid fully as much, soon followed, among them, "Sir George Tressady," "Helbeck of Annisdale," "Eleanor" and "Lady Rose's Daughter." In her beautiful country home, in Hertfordshire, she does her literary work, seeking to escape from the storm of publicity her books have aroused and avoiding all society but a little band of devoted friends.





## FAMOUS PEOPLE

BY FANNIE M. LOTHROP



Photo by Davis & Sanford, New York

### GUGLIELMO MARCONI The Father of Wireless Telegraphy

This is the age of the elimination of the essentials. We have horseless carriages, trackless trolleys, inkless printing, loveless marriages, grapeless wine, clocks without hands, apples without seeds, and, greatest of all, telegraphy without wires. Marconi, who succeeded in performing this miracle of science which has been the dream of electrical experimenters since 1746, is a young Italian, born at Bologna and not yet thirty years old. His father is an Italian landed proprietor and his mother is the daughter of James Jameson, the famous Irish whiskey distiller.

At eight years of age, Guglielmo showed the first faint buds of promise of inventive genius; at twelve his tutor attempted to rob him of one of his devices; at sixteen he was absorbed in chemical, electrical and mathematical problems; and at twenty he was almost taxing the faith and love of his mother with the seemingly insane proposition of attempting to telegraph without wires, through hills and forests, across streams and over fields.

When he was twenty-one he went to England and somehow managed to interest Sir William Preece, engineer of the British telegraph system, sufficiently to secure his co-operation. When Marconi succeeded in sending a message two miles—a success sufficient to irritate him by the golden visions of greater distances yet to master—he was like Moses viewing the Promised Land which seemed impossible for him to enter. It seemed hopeless to persist further and he was discouraged almost to despair, but stuck loyally to the problem until the high-water mark of conquered distance rose to one hundred and twenty-five miles.

On December 13, 1901, the scientific world was astounded by the news that Marconi had succeeded in talking to England from Newfoundland across 2,000 miles of air and water. There was a smile of compassionate tolerance for the inventor who imagined he had done this, the smile of one who does not wish to arouse another from the empty happiness of a pleasant dream. But soon it was science that awoke to the realization of the marvel, and the fresh morning newspaper printed from news "carried to the vessel by "marconigrams" and served with the fresh rolls on the breakfast table in midocean, proves anew the wonder that grows greater as its field broadens and develops. Marconi was the first to send a recorded message through space by electromagnetic waves (in 1894); the first to telegraph from a moving ship (in 1897), and the first to speed a wireless message across the Atlantic.





# FAMOUS PEOPLE

BY FANNIE M. LOTHROP



McLean Studio, New York

## CYNTHIA WESTOVER ALDEN

### The Romantic Career of an American Woman

The lives of some people are so large, so brimful of action and accomplishment, so pulsing with purpose, so kaleidoscopic and diverse in expression, that a mere outline of their life-story seems more like the record of the doings of a syndicate than the biography of an individual. Such a one is Mrs. Cynthia Westover Alden, founder and President-General of the International Sunshine Society, and whose generous thoughtfulness in "passing on" to others her surplus Christmas gifts was the inspiration of a world-society with over 3 000 branches and more than 200,000 members—all consecrated to spreading sweetness and the sunshine of kindness.

When Mrs. Alden was a motherless child of four she was taken by her father, an expert geologist, from her native home in Iowa to Colorado. This was when the journey across the Rockies was one of fearful peril, for to the hardships of travel was added the constant terror of the Indians.

Her education was under the loving tutorship of her father, who, after teaching her the twenty-six keys to universal knowledge, led her into the mysteries of history and geology. When but a child she rode a broncho with the nonchalance of an Indian; with a revolver at her belt or a rifle slung across her arm she was a sure shot, and was expert with the lasso and bow and arrow. In this large unconventional life she grew up a strong, healthy girl, fearless, self-reliant, but with fine impulses and broad sympathy.

Her hunger to serve humanity was even then manifest. She crawled through the tall grass to bathe and dress the wounds of a stage driver who had been scalped by the Indians; saved the life of a miner who was to be lynched, by standing between the victim and the enraged mob till its fury was calmed; was lowered over a precipice to bring up the dead body of a child; threw herself on a miner's lamp that had fallen near gunpowder and smothered the flames; rescued some snow-bound miners; made a daring rescue ride through the Indian invaders and brought relief from the fort, and had many other similar experiences.

The first child in the schools of Colorado, she graduated from the State University. She has made a success in journalism; has written three books, the latest of which is "Money Earning for Women"; done splendid work in music; mastered Spanish, German, Italian and French, and is one of the most popular club women in the country. Mrs. Alden is the wife of John Alden, a lineal descendant of John Alden of "Mayflower" fame.



# FAMOUS PEOPLE

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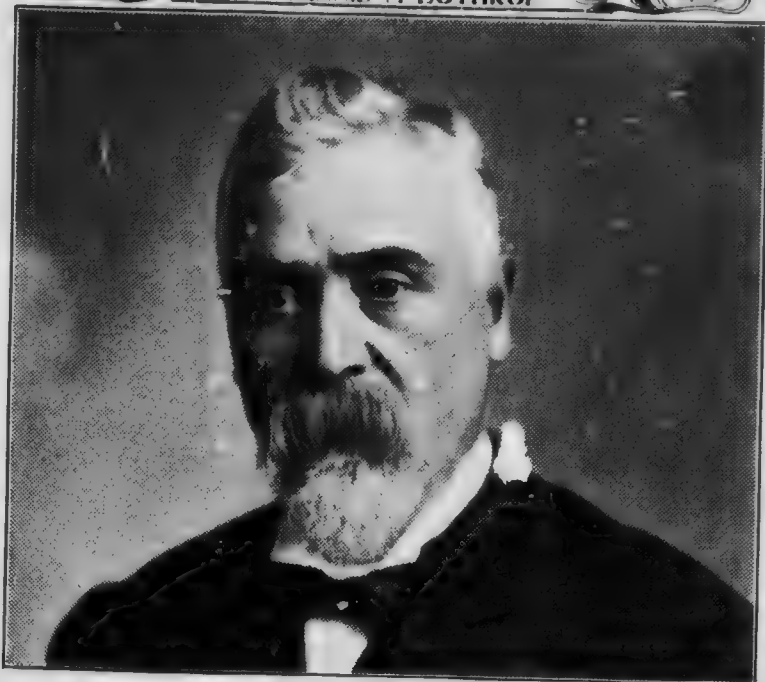


Photo. by Elliott & Fry, London

**SIR HIRAM MAXIM**

## The Inventor of the Automatic Gun

The man who has invented more deadly instruments of war than any other inventor in the world's history is Sir Hiram S. Maxim, an American, who left his native country about twenty years ago in a burst of indignation at the lack of recognition of his genius shown by this government at Washington. Lord Salisbury said of him: "He has prevented more men from dying of old age than any other man who ever lived."

This mechanical genius who has added to the horrors of war was the son of a wood turner in Maine, where he was born in 1840. He "began life," he says, "with a common school education and a jack knife." He showed more skill in handling the knife than the education, and the mechanical turn of his mind soon becoming evident, he was apprenticed when he was fourteen to a carriage builder. After four years of this service he studied metal working and before he was twenty-one was foreman in a machine shop preparatory to a better position in the extensive works of his uncle.

In 1873 he took up the problem of his famous automatic gun, which was not perfected until eleven years later. The inspiration of this invention of destruction came from the kick of an old musket he was using; it was so severe a kick that it threw him over and bruised his cheek. When the stars that he then saw faded away, it occurred to his bright mind that the energy of the recoil might be caught and utilized to reload the rifle, and the result of his experiments was the Maxim automatic machine gun, a death-dealing affair that murders humanity in war at the rate of three thousand shots a minute. This is but one of his many improvements in ordnance and explosives. In 1877 his attention was turned to electricity, and some of the earliest electric lights in America were invented by him.

In 1883 he took up his permanent residence in England, and became a British subject and was knighted by Queen Victoria four years ago. The latest invention of Sir Hiram, who, it is said, has never failed to solve any problem he has attempted, is an airship that really does fly—so many of the recent airships, though beautiful in theory, have failed in this one particular. The persistence of Sir Hiram is shown by his carrying the flying machine problem through thirteen years of his busy life, during a large part of which time he has been a member of the firm of Vickers' Sons & Maxim, which employs 14,000 men.



# FAMOUS PEOPLE

BY FANNIE M. LOTHROP



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## LILLIAN NORDICA

### The Struggles and Triumphs of a Famous Singer

The success of Lillian Nordica, one of the greatest contemporary opera singers, is a tribute to the ambition and struggles of two women—the singer and her mother.

The youngest of six daughters of Edwin Norton, Lillian was born in Farmington, Maine, in 1859, in a family where music was the atmosphere of the home. Her father was a violinist and her mother a singer with an unusually sweet, rich voice. Mrs. Norton's ambitions chafed at the limitations of village life; she wanted broader opportunities for the development of her children, so when Lillian was six the family made its gladsome exodus from Maine to Boston, the Mecca of her dreams.

The future prima donna early revealed the promise of her wonderful voice, and the mother of the transplanted family laid aside money from her boarding-house for the musical instruction of her daughter. From twelve to fifteen Lillian studied at the Boston Conservatory, with Prof. John O'Neill, who condensed the five years' course into three. When her interest flagged in the slightest she was stimulated to new energy by her mother, who learned her daughter's parts in order to teach her, worked untiringly and saved loyally for the new goal of instruction.

Lillian was growing in power and courage. She was making \$1,000 a year as a church singer, but singing in church did not satisfy her high ideals. She audaciously besieged Tietjens in her dressing-room, and by her grace, her grace and her persistence, forced the great singer to listen to her rendering of Leonora's aria in "Il Trovatore." Tietjens was charmed, nobly captivated, and became her friend. She advised her to go to New York to study with Maretzek. The devoted mother was equal to this new emergency; she met the occasion with her customary high finance; saved, borrowed and otherwise secured enough money for a two years' stay in the metropolis, where she watched tenderly over her beloved daughter.

On completing the two years, when funds were ebbing and hopes flowing, Gilmore heard the singer and engaged her for a hundred concerts in Europe. In 1878 came the début at the Trocadero in Paris, followed by a term at Milan, where San Giovanni, an enthusiastic admirer of the singer, rechristened her "Giglio Nordica," the Lily of the North. At Brescia, where her success was overwhelming, her mother fainted through joy at hearing unending plaudits of the enthusiastic audience.



# FAMOUS PEOPLE

BY FANNIE M. LOTHROP



Photo by Howe, Library N. V.

## JACOB GOULD SCHURMAN The President of Cornell University

When Jacob Gould Schurman was a boy on his father's backwoods farm on Prince Edward Island, where he was born in 1854, educational advantages were scant in quality and costly in time and energy. Books were few, the one newspaper that connected the family with the outside world was but a provincial weekly, and the district school was taught by one teacher who gave the staple things of education, with no fancy dishes of the modern class.

When Jacob was thirteen he had to become self-supporting, and secured a clerkship of the general utility type in a country store at thirty dollars a year and his board and washing. In his second year he received sixty dollars, and with this coming of wealth came a longing for a better education.

In two years he had saved eighty dollars and with this as a bulwark against starvation he attended the village high school, studied voraciously day and night and entered a competitive examination for a scholarship at Prince of Wales College at Charlottetown, on the island. He won the scholarship of sixty dollars and went to the college. Then after a year of teaching he went to Acadia College, where his appetite for prize-winning became insatiable. He won a scholarship of \$500 a year for three years offered by the University of London, followed by his winning the traveling fellowship of the Hibbert Society, and other prizes, scholarships and similar rewards, with predestined certainty and monotonous iteration.

He studied in London, Paris, Edinburgh, Berlin, Göttingen, and half a dozen other cities, and when six or seven nations had given him all they could supply but not nearly all he could absorb, he returned to Canada as professor in one of the colleges.

In 1885, Andrew D. White recommended him to Cornell, and the year following, at the age of thirty-two, he became head of the Department of Philosophy; in 1891 was made Dean of the Sage School of Philosophy, and in 1892 he received the degree of Doctor of Laws from Edinburgh University and became President of Cornell, being the only man even considered for a moment for the position.

Dr. Schurman is remarkable as a lecturer, broad and liberal as a teacher, searching for truth *with* his students rather than giving them his opinions as finalities; sincere and thorough as an investigator; clear, eloquent and effective as an orator; simple and direct as an author; and as a man, popular, magnetic, sympathetic, sterling and broad-gauge.





# FAMOUS PEOPLE

BY FANNIE M. LOTHROP



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## MAUD BALLINGTON BOOTH

### The Story of One Woman's Work for Humanity

One of the greatest philanthropists of the United States is Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth, whose life has been lovingly consecrated to the cause of humanity. In the nineteenth century, Elizabeth Fry, famous as "the prisoners' friend," made existence easier for the prisoners of England while they were paying the price of their crimes. In the twentieth century, Mrs. Booth gives to the prisoners of America a new chance to battle honestly with the world, when the prison gates open outward to let them again into the sunlight.

Mrs. Booth, the daughter of an Episcopalian clergyman, was born at Lympsefield, England. When she was three years old her father, Rev. Samuel Charlesworth, moved to a large parish in the East End of London, where, amid misery and poverty, he found a noble field of usefulness. The first barracks the Salvation Army ever had was opposite the rectory, and Mrs. Charlesworth, a broad-minded, large-hearted woman, often took her children across the street to the mission services.

Maud, a beautiful young girl of fifteen, upon whose mind spiritual truths had made little real impression, suddenly had her heart touched by the services one night, and the great privilege of living the highest life and helping others to live it came to her with the luminance of a revelation. Two years later she became a soldier in the Army and did splendid work with General Booth's eldest daughter in France and Switzerland, and among their many adventures they were expelled from the canton of Geneva.

When she was twenty-one, on her marriage to Ballington Booth, they were sent to the United States, where they carried on a most successful campaign on aggressive lines for the Salvation Army. In 1896, owing to a difference of opinion with General Booth as to the policy of the internal management of the work directed at long distance from London, Mrs. Booth and her husband resigned from the Army and organized the "Volunteers of America," of which the "Volunteer Prisoners' League" is but a part.

This latter phase of the crusade of helpfulness, with all its financial burden, its round of visits, its organization and plans, has fallen on the shoulders of Mrs. Booth. Of the 86,000 prisoners in the State institutions of the country, 14,000 are enrolled as members, and when the prisoners leave their confinement they are taken to "Hope Halls," where they can get their bearings anew in life, have influence to secure honest labor, and a helping hand and inspiring environment while struggling toward better things.



# FAMOUS PEOPLE

BY FANNIE M. LOTHROP



Photo by Elliott & Fry, London

## RUDYARD KIPLING The Greatest Living English Author

A small man, tanned and bronzed to a clear light mahogany, squarely built, with broad shoulders, keen blue eyes, heavy straight eyebrows, a thick dark mustache and square resolute jaw, dressed in clothes that shout defiance to fashion plates—this is Rudyard Kipling. Alive, alert, aggressive and intense, quick in movement, a bit cynical and quizzical, he at first suggests one thoroughly self-satisfied; one who is his own court of appeals.

At Bombay, the most cosmopolitan city of Asia, Kipling was born in Christmas week of 1865. His father was an Englishman, a professor of architectural sculpture in a Bombay college, and when Rudyard was six he was shipped back to England to be educated. At thirteen he entered the United Service College at Westward Ho, under the direction of old Indian officers. The atmosphere was military and Indian, and was doubtless a potent factor in coloring the mind of the boy, who acquired more by unconscious absorption than by direct study. It is true that he carried off the prizes in English literature in a matter-of-fact kind of a way, as if it were his assigned share of the plunder; but otherwise revealed no symptoms of genius.

At seventeen he went to India to work on the "Civil and Military Gazette" at Lahore, where his talent began to be recognized in a half patronizing way by the editor-in-chief. Strange, however, the "Plain Tales from the Hills," which gave him his first European success, and his "Departmental Ditties" were accepted under protest, to humor the boy, rather than for any merit the editors discovered.

A man of supreme individuality, he has the splendid courage of his convictions. He dared to lash England into a fight when the Boer war seemed to him imperative; he scourged the country he loved for her treatment of her soldiers; he inspired those soldiers by his stirring, tingling lines and martial stanzas, while Alfred Austin, the Laureate, was writing pink-lemonade verses guaranteed to offend no one. Then came his magnificent "Recessional"—a new classic added to our literature.

Kipling is the apostle of the strenuous; he loves color and paints it with love; he is thrilled by struggle, by power, by conquest. He shows man with the primal instincts and passions, nature unvarnished. He is often blunt to brutality, fearless to the point of frenzy, but always sincere, and always best when he lets the Oriental in his nature keep him close to the India he has revealed to the world as no other English writer has ever done.

